

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN TITLE I

Jack O'Connor
Assistant Title I Director
Montana Office of Public Instruction

Law/History

- ▣ Parental Involvement has always been a part of Title I
- ▣ Became a part of statute under ESEA/NCLB Act of 2001
- ▣ Built upon four pillars:
 - Parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning,
 - Parents should be actively involved in their child's education at school,
 - Parents should be included in the decision-making process to assist in the education of their child, and
 - Other activities under ESEA section 1118 should be carried out fully in order to assist in building parental capacity to assist in their child's education

SEA Responsibilities

- ▣ State must support effective parental involvement policies and practices
- ▣ Provide technical assistance to districts and schools
- ▣ Must review LEA parental involvement activities
- ▣ Shall give parents access to district/school important information through a State Report Card
- ▣ Make sure that parental notifications are being communicated to public

District Responsibilities

- ▣ Must have a policy that states the district's expectations for parental involvement
- ▣ Shall be developed with parental input
- ▣ Will be reviewed, evaluated, and updated annually with parents
- ▣ Help build school capacity for strong parental involvement
- ▣ Must inform parents that they can request information about the professional qualifications of staff who work with their child
- ▣ Shall report to parents about the progress of the schools
- ▣ All information to the parents must be in a language and format they can understand

District Responsibilities cont.

- ▣ Allow for private school participation in Title I
- ▣ Establish a complaint procedure
- ▣ Parental involvement set aside if allocation exceeds \$500,000
- ▣ Parents shall be involved in allocating parental involvement set aside
- ▣ Assist schools not making AYP in the development of improvement plans

School Responsibilities

- ▣ Must develop, with parents of children who participate in Title I, a written parental involvement policy and a school-parent compact
- ▣ School level notifications
- ▣ Must work to involve parents in planning, reviewing, improving, and evaluating the Title I program
- ▣ Must have yearly meetings about the Title I program
- ▣ Must inform parents of the school's academic achievement progress

Parent Capacity

- ▣ District and school must help parents understand:
 - The state's academic content and student achievement standards
 - State and local assessments
 - Parental involvement requirements under Title I
 - How to monitor student progress and assist teachers to improve their child's progress
- ▣ Types of assistance to parents:
 - Family literacy nights
 - Internet training
 - Parenting training

Parent Capacity cont.

- ▣ Should be encouraged to volunteer in the classroom
- ▣ Treat parents as equal partners
- ▣ Allowable costs for parent involvement:
 - Reasonable transportation and childcare costs
 - In-home conferences
 - Workshops and travel expenses
 - Food

District-level notifications

- ▣ Annual report cards on student achievement
- ▣ Yearly progress review
- ▣ Schools identified for improvement, corrective action, and restructuring
- ▣ Public School Choice and SES
- ▣ District level parental involvement policy
- ▣ Complaint procedures
- ▣ Parent's right to know
- ▣ Notifications for aspects of LEP
- ▣ Copies and timelines can be located on the district's TransACT.com account (ACCT-A3)

School-level notifications

- ▣ Parental involvement policies
- ▣ Parent's right to know-student achievement
- ▣ Parent's right to know-non highly qualified teachers
- ▣ Yearly Title I, Part A meeting
- ▣ Copies and timelines can be located on the district's TransACT.com account (ACCT-A3)

Resources

- ▣ USED Non-Regulatory Guidance:
www2.ed.gov/programs/titleiparta/parentinvguid.doc
- ▣ OPI: www.opi.mt.gov-> Programs-> Title Programs-> Title I Programs-> Title I Part A, Improving Basic Programs-> Parental Information and Guidance tab
- ▣ OPI: www.opi.mt.gov-> Programs-> Title Programs-> Title I Programs-> Resources for Parents tab
- ▣ TransACT.com website

Contact Information

- ▣ Heather Denny, Title I Specialist
 - Phone: 406-444-2036
 - Email: hdenny@mt.gov

- ▣ Jack O'Connor, Assistant Title I Director
 - Phone: 406-444-3083
 - Email: joconnor2@mt.gov